

**Docket No.: 2038-281****Application No.: 09/990,263****REMARKS**

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested. Entry of this Amendment under Rule 116 is merited as it raises no new issues and requires no further search.

The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter of claims 4, 8, 10, 12, 14 and 16 in paragraph 5 is noted with appreciation. Claim 7 depending from claim 4 should also be considered allowable.

Allowable claims 4, 10, 12, 14 and 16 have been rewritten in independent form in the manner kindly suggested by the Examiner. Claims 7-8 depending from claim 4 remain unchanged. The other, non-allowed claims have been canceled. Accordingly, all claims in the present application, namely, claims 4, 7-8, 10, 12, 14 and 16 are now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable indication of allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

**Docket No.: 2038-281****Application No.: 09/990,263**

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

**LOWE HAUPTMAN GILMAN & BERNER, LLP**  
Benjamin J. Hauptman  
Registration No. 29,310

USPTO Customer No. 22429  
1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 310  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
(703) 684-1111 BJH/KL/klb  
(703) 518-5499 Facsimile  
**Date: June 3, 2004**

**CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**  
**I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING FACSIMILE TRANSMITTED**  
**TO THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE ON THE DATE SHOWN BELOW**

Kindra Bryant  
**TYPE OR PRINT NAME OF PERSON SIGNING CERTIFICATION**

  
SIGNATUREJune 3, 2004  
DATE703-872-9306  
FACSIMILE NUMBER